

RE: Sinclair Broadcasting

There is no question that the public airwaves are an important means of communicating public events and debates to the US electorate, as the recent presidential debates demonstrate.

However, when public media companies decide that they will weight their airwaves with editorial content that will have the affect of inciting public passions, then is it doubtful that the public airwaves are contributing to sustaining a fair democratic system.

I speak specifically about the plans of Sinclair Broadcasting to air a so-called "documentary" that is hypercritical of Senator Kerry just a few days before the upcoming election. I just now called the local station, which informed me that they have been "told" by Sinclair to air the documentary, and that they do not know how or if they will allow an opposing viewpoint to be heard.

If this kind of "public" broadcasting will be permitted in our nation, then I for one will be in favor of breaking up our media giants and requiring more specific rules about providing a diversity of political opinions over our airwaves. Do we really want to go there?

Sincerely,
Bob Hitchner